



HEATH FIELD AREA POOL INITIATIVE'
WORKING TOGETHER WITH'
HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND
THE HEATHFIELD PARTNERSHIP

Pool Update

We owe it to
over 4,000
young people in
this area

HAPI, 31 High Street, Heathfield,

East Sussex TN21 8HU

Help get the Heathfield area in the

swim

Help get the Heathfield area in the swim

We believe that this new swimming facility will make Heathfield a healthier and happier place for young people to grow up in!

Welcome to our latest Pool Update, It is perhaps not generally realised that we have over 4,000 young people living in the Heathfield area. Add to this the fact that we have lost four local school pools in as many years, and it is with good reason that this Pool Update is focusing on the importance of a new' Heathfield pool to the members of our younger generation. .

It is very likely that the greatest beneficiaries of a Heathfield pool will be the 1,800 local primary school children, the 1,500 Community College students and more than 1,000 local pre-school children. Given that the original inspiration for the pool project was these very young people in their ever-growing numbers, it would seem entirely appropriate that the London Olympic Committee have committed themselves to leaving a lasting legacy that will benefit all of this country's young people. We strongly believe that this Heathfield pool facility should be a part of that legacy!

Outline planning costs are revised upwards! We are approaching the next important stage in the project's progress, namely the outline planning submission. Recently we have been made aware of significant additions to the level of information now required at this early juncture. Eight specific reports are now needed, ranging from a 'Landscape and Biodiversity Statement' to a 'Soil Investigation and Land Contamination Survey',

What a local pool would mean to us...

'I think that a local indoor swimming pool would be a great improvement for Heathfield. It would help me personally so I can practice my lifeguard lessons. It would inspire teenagers like myself to go out and get fit, and it would be extremely useful for all ages in and around the Heathfield area, I attend Heathfield Community College and think it would be great to use it for PE classes and after school clubs. It really would be a huge improvement to the whole of the Heathfield area.'

Robert Goswell aged 14

with much more in between. It had been expected that these reports would be a requirement at the time of the full planning submission and not at this relatively early outline planning stage. '

It is now anticipated that the figure for the outline planning permission will be considerably more than the £12,500 that we were earmarking for this stage. With this in mind, the Heathfield Partnership and HAPI have concluded that the more sensible option would be to go directly for a full planning submission, for which tenders will shortly be prepared. Looking on the bright side, this should give us one less hurdle to cross,

Your membership and support are still so important to the campaign! If you missed sending your subscription in April, or if you haven't got round to joining yet, then a remittance slip has been included we really would welcome your ongoing support. A very warm thank you to all existing HAPI members, your splendid support continues to help sustain our campaign.

While showing his support by signing our pool petition back in 2003, Mark Sidey from Crowborough wrote: '*It's not for me but it's for all the children I teach in your area.*' That generous comment has stayed with me and will do so until we finally achieve our goal.

Don Rigg, Chairman of HAPI

'I would real!}' like a pool in Heathfield so I wouldn't have to travel to Crowborough to go swimming. All the students that go to local schools could use it. Being local means that the journey would use less fuel and it would also help reduce carbon footprints - some people could even walk there. Andrew Goswell aged 12 .

'A proper indoor swimming pool is exactly what Heathfield needs. Many of my mends can barely swim, and an all year round local swimming pool would change that. I would love to be able to cycle or walk to a pool instead of. having to go all the way to Uckfield.' Ben Gilbert aged 14

Local young people continue to miss out!

The Heathfield Youth Centre celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and throughout much of that time many hundreds of our local youngsters have had the opportunity to swim from May to September in the outdoor pool at Heathfield Community College. With the closure of this old, but much treasured facility, today's local youngsters have been left high and dry, that is, unless they are able to make the 20-mile round trip to another town.

The thousands of young people now living in and around Heathfield badly need and deserve to have this planned new local indoor pool just as early as possible, as indeed do the rest of the community. I shall be continuing to work with the Heathfield Partnership and HAPI on behalf of all our local young people to help bring this about.

Beata Drury, Senior Youth Worker

YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS HAVE THEIR SAY:

- 'The young people need an indoor swimming pool and a better Leisure Centre because there is nothing else to do in Heathfield.'
- 'It will mean we can swim all year round and it would be great after school and also something to do at weekends.'
 - 'Now you have to go too far for swimming. A pool in Heathfield would be easy to reach for young people.'
 - 'It would be great for local schools to use, as well as everyone else in the area.'
 - 'Everywhere else has a swimming pool, Heathfield is boring, an indoor swimming pool would make it a much better place to live.'
- 'It means that at last we could have swimming lessons and it would make us all better swimmers.'

Support from Olympic gold medalist!

I have long supported this ongoing initiative to have a locally sited community indoor pool facility. It would bring a huge benefit to the town and would encourage the health, fitness and confidence of so many young people - from toddlers to teenagers - living in the Heathfield area.'

Jayne Torvill, OBE.

Community College plays a leading role in the pool project

Students, staff, parents and governors all want a new swimming pool for Heathfield. All agree that we are badly in need of a modern, new, local swimming pool to replace the outdoor pool which has recently come to the end of its life. A new swimming pool will make a substantial difference to the lives and fitness of the young people, at the College and in the Heathfield community.

Alan Powell, Head Teacher, HCC

Support from Maynards Green...

The children want me to say that an indoor pool in Heathfield would be great because they could carry on swimming locally after leaving Maynards Green School, where we have a pool that we are presently refurbishing. One of the children even broke into verse:

*We love to swim, we think it's cool!
So do your best to give us a pool!*

I would support HAPI's attempts to create a local indoor pool facility for young pupils in the area. Swimming is an important part of the curriculum as well as being an important life skill that all children of all ages should be given every opportunity to develop. Swimming is also a great way of keeping fit and can be a fun, family activity.

Verity Poole, Headteacher
Maynards Green CP School

Less travel, more swimming!

'If Heathfield had a pool I would swim more often and I could improve my swimming and have fun. When I have mends to stay over, we would be able to walk to the pool.'

10 years old pupil at Cross-in-Hand School

'It's a long way to Uckfield pool in the car and if you didn't have a car you couldn't go swimming.'

7 years old pupil at Cross-in-Hand School.

Burwash Primary School children speak up for pool!

- There used to be an outdoor pool at Heathfield Community College, I used it a lot and I really miss it.
- I love swimming but can't go that often as it takes so long to get to a pool
- It would be much easier and quicker to go to Heathfield than Tunbridge Wells pool.
- The school could use it instead of traveling to Vinehall School.

A boon for many hundreds of pre-school children!

Learning to swim at an early age should be an essential part of every child's life. To have a community indoor swimming pool in Heathfield would be a wonderful benefit to hundreds of pre-school children, so many of whom could then swim locally without the need to travel the many miles to be taken to pools in other towns. This campaign for Heathfield's own indoor pool deserves to succeed and we fully support it.

Sue Pinfold, Welcome Pre-School, Heathfield.

Heathfield Community College students say they need a pool!

In a recent survey, more than 200 BCC students aged between 12 and 15 were asked whether they would use an indoor swimming pool in Heathfield. Over 87% said YES! Many students gave voice to their feelings about this issue; here are a selection of their views:

- Much handier because my mum doesn't drive. I would get a lot more exercise and be able to meet up with my friends.
- People would really benefit from a swimming pool.
- I think it would be good for all the community.
- My little brother could learn to swim.
- For swimming training - I have to go all the way to Lewes for swimming club.